

Land Use and Vegetation Crossed by the GSPL Centerline				
State	Town	Crossing Length (Feet)	Vegetation	Land Use
NH	LITTLETON	31.3362	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	LITTLETON	925.9179	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	LITTLETON	16.9686	Developed Land	Developed Land
NH	LITTLETON	135.7145	Open Upland	Residential
NH	LITTLETON	31.5369	Not Applicable	Residential
NH	LITTLETON	119.4034	Open Upland	Residential
NH	LITTLETON	698.999	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	LITTLETON	508.5463	Not Applicable	Open Water
NH	LITTLETON	2595.6219	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	LITTLETON	16.3762	Developed Land	Developed Land
NH	LITTLETON	2122.2782	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	LITTLETON	50.8046	Developed Land	Developed Land
NH	LITTLETON	36.9068	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	LITTLETON	506.3028	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	LITTLETON	14.0868	Developed Land	Developed Land
NH	LITTLETON	854.8487	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	LITTLETON	675.0957	Open Upland	Agriculture
NH	LITTLETON	3547.0965	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	1014.8845	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	133.3539	Open Upland	Agriculture
NH	MONROE	43.7081	Developed Land	Developed Land
NH	MONROE	632.541	Open Upland	Agriculture
NH	MONROE	103.363	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	MONROE	564.3958	Open Upland	Agriculture
NH	MONROE	1372.4765	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	770.5539	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	MONROE	27.9802	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	128.4992	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	MONROE	17.5561	Developed Land	Developed Land
NH	MONROE	36.907	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	15.5046	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	MONROE	52.7601	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	164.6591	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	MONROE	248.1466	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	163.5255	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	MONROE	832.0365	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	1111.2185	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	1614.5351	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	63.2627	Developed Land	Developed Land
NH	MONROE	187.9033	Open Upland	Open Land
NH	MONROE	1688.5932	Forest Upland	Forest
NH	MONROE	39.9736	Developed Land	Developed Land
NH	MONROE	1456.747	Forest Upland	Forest

Federal and State Lands Crossed by the GSPL Line					
State	Town	Crossing Length (ft)	Crossing ID	Name	Federal, State, Local
VT	LEWIS	20,849	6	Conte National Wildlife Refuge	National Wildlife Refuge
VT	BLOOMFIELD	23,985	7	Conte National Wildlife Refuge	National Wildlife Refuge
VT	BRUNSWICK	5,476	10	West Mountain Wildlife Management Area	Wildlife Management Area
VT	BRUNSWICK	5,476	10	West Mountain WMA	Wildlife Management Area
VT	FERDINAND	29,687	11	West Mountain Wildlife Management Area	Wildlife Management Area
VT	FERDINAND	29,697	11	West Mountain WMA	Wildlife Management Area
VT	GRANBY	261	12	West Mountain WMA	Wildlife Management Area
VT	VICTORY	11,581	15	Victory State Forest	State Forest
VT	GRANBY	11	16	Victory State Forest	State Forest
VT	LUNENBURG	7,827	17	Victory State Forest	State Forest
NH	LITTLETON	3,210	18	National Conservation Easements (NCED)	Federal
NH	MONROE	2,265	19	National Conservation Easements (NCED)	Federal
NH	LITTLETON	1,223		State Of New Hampshire (undesignated land)	State

Roads and Railroads Crossed by the GSPL Centerline				
State	Town	Crossing ID	Street/ Railroad Name	Federal or State
VT	Norton	1	VT Route 114E	State
VT	Bloomfield	2	VT Route 105	State
VT	Bloomfield	3	Railroad	
VT	Ferdinand	4	S America Pond Rd	
VT	Ferdinand	5	Madison Brook Rd	
VT	Granby	6	Finch Brook Rd	
VT	Granby	7	DC Line Rd	
VT	Granby	8	Stony Brook Rd	
VT	Granby	9	DC Line Rd	
VT	Granby	10	Tolman Brook Rd	
VT	Granby	11	Old County Rd	
VT	Granby	12	Granby Rd	
VT	Granby	13	DC Line Rd	
VT	Granby	14	DC Line Rd	
VT	Granby	15	DC Line Rd	
VT	Lunenburg	16	Unnamed 11	
VT	Concord	17	E Concord Rd	
VT	Concord	18	Railroad	
VT	Concord	19	Leonard Hill Rd	
VT	Concord	20	Grist Mill Pit Rd	
VT	Waterford	21	Old County Rd	
NH	Littleton	22	Dam Access Road	
NH	Littleton	23	St Johnsbury Road	State
NH	Littleton	24	Interstate 93 N	Federal
NH	Littleton	25	Interstate 93 S	Federal
NH	Littleton	26	Monroe Rd	State

EXHIBIT H

Public Involvement and Agency Coordination

Media Coverage

Articles total through 11/27/2017: 172

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
172	November 21, 2017	AP	Officials discuss proposed \$1.1B power transmission project	AP Newswire
171	November 20, 2017	Caledonian Record	Granite State Power Link introduced non-profit energy co. partner	10,204/St Johnsbury, VT
170	November 20, 2017	InDepthNH	Appraiser Sonsoucy Criticizes Northern Pass Property Valuations	Online publication, NH
169	November 14, 2017	Concord Monitor	'How do you buy clean power?' and other questions electrify Science Cafe	22,700/Concord, NH
168	November 12, 2017	Commonwealth Magazine	Natl Grid finds novel way to lobby clean energy procurement	Massachusetts political publication
167	November 12, 2017	Mass Live	Transmission developer TDI offers \$20 million for Western Massachusetts home energy retrofits if it wins statewide clean electricity contract	Online news site serving Western Massachusetts
166	October 27, 2017	NH Business Review	Region's renewable needs spark a NH solar surge	12,500/bi monthly Manchester, NH
165	October 12, 2017	NH Union Leader	Consultant questions whether Bay State will accept power project without approvals	45,500/Manchester, NH
164	October 10, 2017	Commonwealth Magazine	Utilities on both sides of the bargaining table	Massachusetts political publication
163	October 9, 2017	RTO Insider	Tx Developers Pitch Mass. Clean Energy Bids	Industry publication
162	September 24, 2017	The Boston Globe	A massive project demands basic transparency	245,000/Boston, MA

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
161	September 21, 2017	InDepthNH	Study: Granite State Power Link Bests Northern Pass on CO2 Reductions	Digital Publication / New Hampshire
160	September 17, 2017	NewsLINC	Granite State Power Link Proposal	Vermont online blog
159	August 30, 2017	NHPR	Executive Councilor: Sununu Needs To Do More Outreach On Northern Pass	NH Public Radio
158	August 24, 2017	Windpower Engineering & Development	Another step toward wind-energy exportation in Canada	Trade publication
157	August 22, 2017	Utility Dive	Northern Pass transmission project gets DOE environmental nod	Trade publication
156	August 17, 2017	Canwea	Another step towards wind energy exportation	Canadian Wind organization
155	August 13, 2017	Westerly Sun	 WesterlySun 81317.pdf	6,551 / Westerly, RI
154	August 12, 2017	The News & Observer	Massachusetts pushing ahead with renewable energy initiative	121,441 / Raleigh, NC
153	August 10, 2017	WBUR.org	Northern New Englanders Hesitant to Host Renewable Power Channels to Mass	Public Radio / Boston, MA
152	August 7, 2017	New England Public Radio	Should Northern New England Host Massachusetts' Energy Extension Cord?	Public Radio / Springfield, MA
151	August 6, 2017	Community Newspaper Holdings	Massachusetts to weigh plans for green power	Owner of various newspapers in US
150	August 6, 2017	Haverhill Gazette	Massachusetts to weigh plans for green power	3,900 / Haverhill, MA
149	August 5, 2017	The Daily News of Newburyport	Green power companies bid to bring alternative power to Mass	9,600 / Newburyport, MA
148	August 3, 2017	Climate Action Business Associate (CABA)	What you need to know about the new Mass. Clean Energy Project Proposals	Membership organization

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
147	August 2, 2017	Seven Days VT	Power Grab Could Seal the Fate of Underwater Transmission Lines	Weekly newspaper / Burlington, VT
146	August 1, 2017	ABC 6	Deepwater Wind Plans Offshore Farm  20170801100000 full.flv4VinBx.	ABC6.com/Providence, RI
145	August 1, 2017	Cape Cod Times	Deepwater Wind taking 2 shots at Massachusetts energy procurement	39,000/Barnstable, MA
144	July 31, 2017	Utility Dive	5 companies propose transmission projects for Massachusetts clean energy RFP	Industry publication
143	July 31, 2017	WGRB	Utility offers energy proposals under state energy law	Albany, NY
142	July 31, 2017	Commonwealth Magazine	Offshore wind farm bids against hydro, onshore wind firms	Boston, MA
141	July 31, 2017	AP	Offshore Wind Developer Announces Clean Energy Project	
140	July 31, 2017	Recharge news	Emera proposes 1.2GW of Canadian wind exports to New England	Wind trade publication/ Oslo, Norway
139	July 30, 2017	The Westerly Sun	Utilities competing to provide clean power to Massachusetts	10,000/Westerly, RI
138	July 29, 2017	Wicked Local Waltham	Bidders want to bring Canadian hydro to Massachusetts	Online media/Waltham, MA
137	July 29, 2017	Concord Monitor	Northern Pass competes for Mass energy deal	22,700/Concord, NH
136	July 29, 2017	WickedLocal	Bidders want to bring Canadian Hydro to Massachusetts	Online news/Randolph, MA
135	July 29, 2017	MetroWest Daily News	Business Digest for July 29, 2017	17,542/Framingham, MA

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
134	July 28, 2017	North American Windpower	What's Been Proposed So Far For Massachusetts' Clean Energy RFP?	Industry publication/Oxford, CT
133	July 28, 2017	Worcester Business Journal	Proposals would bring hydropower to Massachusetts	30,000/Worcester, MA
132	July 28, 2017	WBZ 1030 AM	 20170728120000 full.flvsDTEQ John Flynn on GSPL	AM Radio/ Boston, MA
131	July 27, 2017	NewsOK / The Oklahoman	Utilities competing to provide clean energy to Massachusetts	124,667 / Oklahoma City, OK
130	July 27, 2017	Greenfield Recorder	Utilities competing to provide clean energy to Mass	11,253 / Greenfield, MA
129	July 27, 2017	SNL	Transmission developers submit bids for Mass clean energy RFP	Industry publication/ New York, NY
128	July 27, 2017	Greenfield Recorder	Utilities competing to provide clean power to Massachusetts	11,253/Greenfield, MA
127	July 27, 2017	US News & Report	Utilities Competing to Provide Clean Power to Massachusetts	
126	July 27, 2017	Commonwealth Magazine	Hydro-Quebec partners up	Boston, MA
125	July 27, 2017	The Salem News	Bidders vow to bring Quebec hyrdo to Massachusetts	20,000/Salem, MA
124	July 27, 2017	NH Public Radio	Eversource and National Grid, Among Others, Competing for Mass. Energy Contracts	Public radio/Concord, NH
123	July 27, 2017	MassLive.com	5 major transmission, hydro and wind partners bid into Mass Clean Energy RFP	Online media
122	July 27, 2017	The Boston Globe	Power companies line up to seek big state-managed contract for clean power	245,000 / Boston, MA

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
121	July 27, 2017	RTO Insider	Hydro-Quebec Dominates Mass. Clean Energy Bids	Trade journal/Potomac, MD
120	July 27, 2017	NH Union Leader	Northern Pass in-service date pushed back	45,500/Manchester, NH
119	July 27, 2017	WAMC/Northeast Public Radio	National Grid's Plan to Run Power Line Through MA, NY Towns	Public Radio, Western Mass
118	July 27, 2017	Portland Press Herald	CMP wants to build 145-mile transmission line through western Maine	37,776/Portland, ME
117	July 26, 2017	Berkshire Eagle	Some answers, but more questions in Northeast Renewable Link endeavor	23,385/Pittsfield, MA
116	July 25, 2017	iBerkshires	National Grid Plans New Transmission Line Through Seven Towns	North Adams, MA
115	July 21, 2017	Concord Monitor	More than 100 legislators among Northern Pass opposition	22,700/Concord, NH
114	July 19, 2017	New Hampshire Public Radio	Webster residents weigh in on proposed power line	Public Radio/NH
113	July 19, 2017	Concord Monitor	Letter: Fight the Power	22,700/Concord, NH
112	July 16, 2017	Concord Monitor	Editorial: Bridging the gap of energy eras	22,700/Concord, NH
111	July 14, 2017	New Hampshire Public Radio	National Grid Holding 'Community Meetings' on Proposed Transmission Project	Public Radio/NH
110	July 13, 2017	InDepthNH.org	Pressure Mounts As Northern Pass Hearings Continue	Digital news site/NH
109	July 13, 2017	Caledonian Record	Granite State Power Link Offers Littleton Residents A Look At Project	10,204/Northeast Kingdom, VT
108	July 12, 2017	Concord Monitor	Public meetings start for Granite State Power Link, a Northern Pass-like proposal	22,700/Concord, NH

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
107	July 7, 2017	WBZ 1030 AM Radio	Project mention  20170707220000 full.flvJw9IE7.	Boston, MA
106	July 7, 2017	New Media Militia	<u>National Grid, electrical workers reach agreement on project</u>	NH news blog
105	July 7, 2017	APNews.com	<u>National Grid, electrical workers reach agreement on project</u>	New York City, NY
104	July 7, 2017	New England Energy News .com	<u>Energy News for week ending July 7, 2017</u>	NE Energy Blog
103	July 7, 2017	Derry news	<u>Councilors hear details on power project</u>	Derry, NH/circulation not known/Facebook: 4,061 likes
102	July 7, 2017	NH1.com	<u>National Grid, electrical workers reach agreement on project</u>	Online media, Concord, NH
101	July 7, 2017	The News Tribune	<u>National Grid, Electric Workers Reach Agreement on Project</u>	54,088/Tacoma, WA
100	July 7, 2017	Vermont Business Magazine	<u>National Grid, union sign MOU for Granite State Power Link</u>	35,000/Burlington, VT *the link was also shared on LabourStart, a trade union blog. The link has been shared on teamsterslocal104.com and amfa4.com.
99	July 7, 2017	NH Union Leader	<u>National Grid, IBEW to build Granite State Power Link project</u>	140,000/Manchester, NH
98	July 7, 2017	US News	<u>National Grid, Electric Workers Reach Agreement on Project</u>	Online media
97	July 5, 2017	The News and Sentinel	<u>Granite State Power Link Continues to Hold Local Community Meetings</u>	Colebrook, NH

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
96	June 21, 2017	VT Digger	<u>Power import plan runs into grid capacity limits</u>	14,000/Montpelier, VT
95	June 18, 2017	Sentinel Source	<u>From Yale to the North Country, Northern Pass elicits strong opinions</u>	9,000/Keene, NH
94	June 17, 2017	Caledonian Record	<u>New NEK Power Line Would Ship Big Wind Power To Mass.</u>	10,204/Northeast Kingdom, VT
93	June 17, 2017	Berlin Daily Sun	<u>First Site Evaluation Committee Public Hearing on Northern Pass Draws Mixed Comments</u>	8,500/Berlin, NH
92	May 31, 2017	Berlin Daily Sun	<u>Hydro Quebec explores opportunities in New England and New York</u>	8,500/Berlin, NH
91	May 26, 2017	T&D World	<u>Who Says the Era of Long Haul Billion Dollar Projects is Behind Us?</u>	212,028/Trade Publication
90	May 26, 2017	WNPR Radio	Discussion on MA RFP Process and three project, including GSPL	Hartford, CT
89	May 22, 2017	Conservation Law Foundation	<u>The Northern Pass Project Has Become a Dinosaur and Should Be Rejected</u>	Blog
88	May 11, 2017	Industrial Info	<u>U.S. Power Grid Upgrades in Full Swing</u>	Blog
87	May 9, 2017	Concord Monitor	<u>Hearings reveal true cost of Northern Pass</u>	22,700/Concord, NH
86	May 4, 2017	The Journal Record	<u>Power line proposal could reopen remote Vermont land debate</u>	Oklahoma

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
73 85	April 30, 2017	Associated Press picked up by: Brattleboro Reformer (Brattleboro, VT) US News & Report Jackson Hole News and Guide (Jackson Hole, WY) Environment Guru WorldNews Network CT Scoop The State (Columbia, SC) Vermont Business Magazine News 10 (Albany, NY) Montana News Report Laconia Daily Sun (Laconia, NH) The Berkshire Eagle (Pittsfield, MA) (23,835) The Journal Record (Oklahoma) ABC6 (Providence) NHAngle.com (part of NH Union Leader) SFGate (San Francisco, CA) New Haven Register (New Haven, CT) Valley News (West Lebanon, NH)	Power line proposal could reopen remote Vermont land debate	
72	April 25, 2017	Caledonian Record	Granite State Power Link Makes Pitch To Littleton	10,204/Northeast Kingdom, VT
71	April 19, 2017	Caledonian Record	National Grid To Meet More Select Boards In NEK	10,204/Northeast Kingdom, VT
70	April 18, 2017	Andover Beacon	Select Board Minutes: April 17, 2017	1,100/Andover, NH
69	April 13, 2017	Valley News	Northern Pass Hearings Begin	16,000/West Lebanon, NH
68	April 13, 2017	NH Union Leader	Northern Pass 'trial' begins before state evaluation panel	45,536/Manchester, NH

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
67	April 13, 2017	WMUR Picked up by: LMTOonline (Laredo, TX) WRAL (Raleigh, NC) U.S. News & Report	<u>What you need to know about Northern Pass as critical hearing beings</u>	Radio
66	April 12, 2017	Londonderry News	<u>Switching Station Proposed in Londonderry as Part of Power Link Project</u>	Londonderry, NH
65	April 12, 2017	Concord Monitor	<u>Northern Pass gets day in court Thursday as committee hearings start</u>	22,700/Concord, NH
64	April 11, 2017	NH Union Leader	<u>New Granite State Power Link project rich in rights – of way</u>	45,536/Manchester, NH
63	April 5, 2017	Engineering News Record	<u>National Grid Proposes New \$1 Billion Transmission Project</u>	47,812/Trade Publication
62	April 4, 2017	Engineering360	<u>National Grid Eyes HDVC Line for New England</u>	8,000,000/Trade Publication
61	April 4, 2017	Concord Monitor	<u>A messy 'junk drawer' can be more dangerous than you think, and other techy bits</u>	22,700/Concord, NH
60	April 4, 2017	Tradition Energy	<u>With New Project, National Grid Puts Forward Possible Alternative to Northern Pass</u>	Blog
59	April 4, 2017	Utility Dive	<u>National Grid proposed 1200MW Canada New England transmission line</u>	370,000/Trade Publication
58	April 2, 2017	Colebrook Chronicle	<u>National Grid Proposes Powerline Using Existing Vt. Line</u>	6,000/Colebrook, NH
57	April 2, 2017	NH Union Leader	<u>Dueling plans to deliver more power</u>	45,636/Manchester, NH

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
56	March 31, 2017	New England Energy News	<u>Energy News for week ending March 31, 2017</u>	Blog
55	March 31, 2017	NH Public Radio	<u>Weekly NH News Roundup: March 31, 2017</u>	Radio
54	March 31, 2017	Public Power Daily	<u>Utility proposes Canada to U.S. transmission line project</u>	Trade Publication
53	March 31, 2017	Solar Power World	<u>Proposed transmission project could bring solar from Canada to New England</u>	13,000/Trade Publication
52	March 30, 2017	Windpower Engineering	<u>National Grid proposes transmission project: 1200 MW from Canada</u>	10,000/Trade Publication
51	March 30, 2017	Concord Monitor	<u>Senate approves bill that could revive purchase of Northern Pass power</u>	22,700/Concord, NH
50	March 30, 2017	La Presse.Ca	<u>Le New Hampshire ne veut pas d'électricité du Québec</u>	1,716,000/Digital News
49	March 30, 2017	NH Union Leader	<u>Northern Pass opponents seek delay of SEC hearings</u>	45,536/Manchester, NH
48	March 30, 2017	Berlin Daily Sun	<u>National Grid dives into the Quebec to New England Energy Fray</u>	8,500/Berlin, NH
47	March 30, 2017	The Boston Globe	<u>National Grid/Eversource showdown; McD's is fresh, more</u>	245,824/Boston, MA
46	March 30, 2017	Electric Light & Power	<u>National Grid proposes Canada New England clean energy power line</u>	30,000/Trade publication
45	March 30, 2017	Utility Dive	<u>National Grid's proposed transmission line will ship 1.2MW of renewables from Canada</u>	370,000/Trade Publication

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
44	March 30, 2017	Concord Monitor	<u>Northern Pass opponents say they've hoped for something like the National Grid plan</u>	22,700/Concord, NH
43	March 30, 2017	Caledonian Record	National Grid Proposes 1200 MW Transmission Line	10,204/Northeast Kingdom, VT
42	March 30, 2017	EnergyWire	<u>National Grid plans to import hydropower from Quebec</u>	Digital Trade Publication
41	indepthMarch 29, 2017	Forest Society of New Hampshire	<u>National Grid Proposes Alternative to Northern Pass</u>	Blog
40	March 29, 2017	Citizens Count NH, Live Free or Die Alliance	<u>Competition for Northern Pass?</u>	Blog
39	March 29, 2017	National Wind Watch	<u>Power Plan includes Haverhill</u>	Blog
38	March 29, 2017	NH Union Leader	<u>Northern Pass critics and supporters hail National Grid transmission project</u>	45,536/Manchester, NH
37	March 29, 2017	Le Journal de Quebec	<u>Exportations d'electricite: d'autres mauvaises nouvelles pour Hydro</u>	3,000,000/Montreal, QC
36	March 29, 2017	Fosters Daily	<u>National Grid dives into the Quebec to New England energy fray</u>	55,800/Dover, NH
35	March 29, 2017	VT Digger	<u>KINGDOM ROUTE EYED FOR POWER LINE TO MASSACHUSETTS</u>	14,000/Montpelier, VT
34	March 29, 2017	Energy Manager Today	<u>Granite State Power Link Could Reduce New England Energy Costs by \$1B Over 10 Years</u>	Trade Publication
33	March 29, 2017	Caledonian Record	<u>Does Northern Pass Have A Competitor?</u>	10,204/Northeast Kingdom, VT
32	March 29, 2017	Valley News	<u>Power Plan Line Includes Haverhill</u>	16,000/West Lebanon, NH

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
31	March 29, 2017	InsideSources	<u>This Week Has Seen Major Setbacks For Eversource, Northern Pass. Here's Why.</u>	25,000,000/Digital Publication
30	March 28, 2017	Financial Times	<u>National Grid Proposes New Transmission Project: Would Provide Host Community Benefits, Help Secure New England's Clean Energy Future</u>	2,000,000
29	March 28, 2017	The Recorder	<u>National Grid proposes 1,200 megawatt New England project</u>	17,295/Greenfield, MA
28	March 28, 2017	New York Times	<u>National Grid Proposes New Transmission Project</u>	2,771,500/New York, NY
27	March 28, 2017	Manchester Ink Link	<u>National Grid dives into the Quebec to New England energy fray</u>	180,000/Manchester, NH
26	March 28, 2017	S&P Global Platts	<u>National Grid plans power line for imports from Canada</u>	Portland, ME
25	March 28, 2017	ValueWalk	<u>This Week Has Seen Major Setbacks For Eversource, Northern Pass. Here's Why.</u>	1,500,000/Digital Publication
24	March 28, 2017	Transmission Hub	<u>National Grid proposes approximately \$1bn, 170 mile Granite State Power Link</u>	Trade Publication
23	March 28, 2017	NH Public Radio	<u>With New Project, National Grid Puts Forward Possible Alternative to Northern Pass</u>	Radio
22	March 28, 2017	NH Union Leader	<u>Now National Grid wants a NH transmission line to import Canadian power too</u>	45,536/Manchester, NH

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK



A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
21	March 28, 2017	Caledonian Record	<u>National Grid proposes 1,200 megawatt New England project</u>	10,204/Northeast Kingdom, VT
20	March 28, 2017	Vermont Business Magazine	<u>1.2 GW Granite State Power Link proposed, would start in Vermont</u>	35,000/Burlington, VT
19	March 28, 2017	WCAX	<u>National Grid proposes 1,200 megawatt New England project</u>	Burlington, VT
18	March 28, 2017	NH Business Review	<u>National Grid proposes NH Vt. high power transmission line</u>	1,000/Manchester, NH
17	March 28, 2017	Concord Monitor	<u>National Grid proposes a Northern Pass like power line from Quebec</u>	22,700/Concord, NH
16	March 28, 2017	InDepthNH	<u>National Grid dives into the Quebec to New England energy fray</u>	Digital Publication
15	March 28, 2017	San Luis Obispo Tribune	<u>National Grid proposes 1,200 megawatt New England project</u>	San Luis Obispo, CA
14	March 28, 2017	Business Wire	<u>National Grid Proposes New Transmission Project: Would Provide Host Community Benefits, Help Secure New England's Clean Energy Future</u>	Newswire

GRANITE STATE
POWER LINK


 A Ready Path to Clean Energy

	Date	Publication	Headline	Circulation/ Location
1 13	March 28, 2017	Yahoo Finance WDRB.com – Louisville, KY NewsOn6.com – Tulsa, OK 9&10News – Cadillac, MI Oil&Gas360 CBS58 – Milwaukee, WI News9.com – Oklahoma City, OK Newschannel10.com – Amarillo, TX CBS8 – San Diego, CA WFMJ.com – Youngstown, OH ABC6, WLNE – Providence, RI US News & Report Stratton Report	Reprint of National Grid GSPL press release	

Recorded Project Supporters

Vermont	New Hampshire
State Senators from the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont representing the project route towns	22 State Representatives from various towns and cities throughout New Hampshire
State House Representatives from the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont representing the project route towns	State Senator Bob Giuda, representing several project route towns
Town of Waterford, a project route town	State Senator Lou D'Allesandro, representing Goffstown, a project route town
Vermont Association of Snow Travelers (VAST)	Grafton County Commissioner Linda Lauer, representing project route area
Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA), representing all communities within the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, including all project route towns	Town of Goffstown, NH
Town of Concord, a project route town	Central New Hampshire Chamber of Commerce
Town of Lunenburg, a project route town	Mike Ahern, Plymouth, NH Board of Selectman member and local businessman
Unified Towns and Gores, project route communities	Town of Salisbury, NH
	Town of Plymouth, NH

In addition, the Project has received written support from over 50 area residents and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 103 (Boston, Massachusetts).

EXHIBIT I

Project Schedule

GSPL Major Activity Schedule

	2018				2019				2020				2021				2022							
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Task																								
Permitting Activities									Jan 20															
Land Acquisition					Jun 17																			
Engineering																								
Procurement									Mar 20															
Construction																							Jun 22	

EXHIBIT J

Verification of Application

VERIFICATION OF GRIDAMERICA HOLDINGS INC.

Pursuant to 10 C.F.R. § 205.322(e), I, William Hazelip, first being duly sworn, depose and state as follows:

1. I am the Vice President, and an officer, of GridAmerica Holdings Inc.
2. I am legally authorized to bind GridAmerica Holdings Inc., and have the authority to verify the foregoing Application of GridAmerica Holdings Inc. for a Presidential Permit for the Granite State Power Link project.
3. I have read the Application and am familiar with the Granite State Power Link project. While I do not have direct, firsthand knowledge of each matter addressed in the Application, all matters have been assembled by authorized employees and counsel under my direction and supervision and are true to the best of my information and belief.

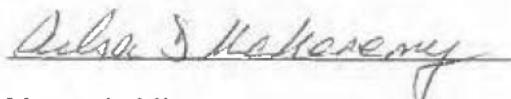
GRIDAMERICA HOLDINGS INC.



By: William Hazelip

Its: Vice President

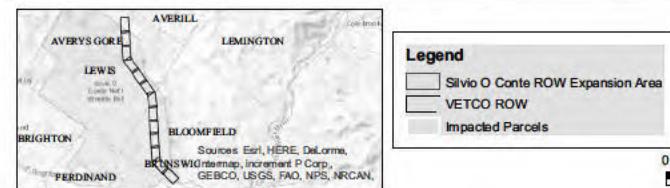
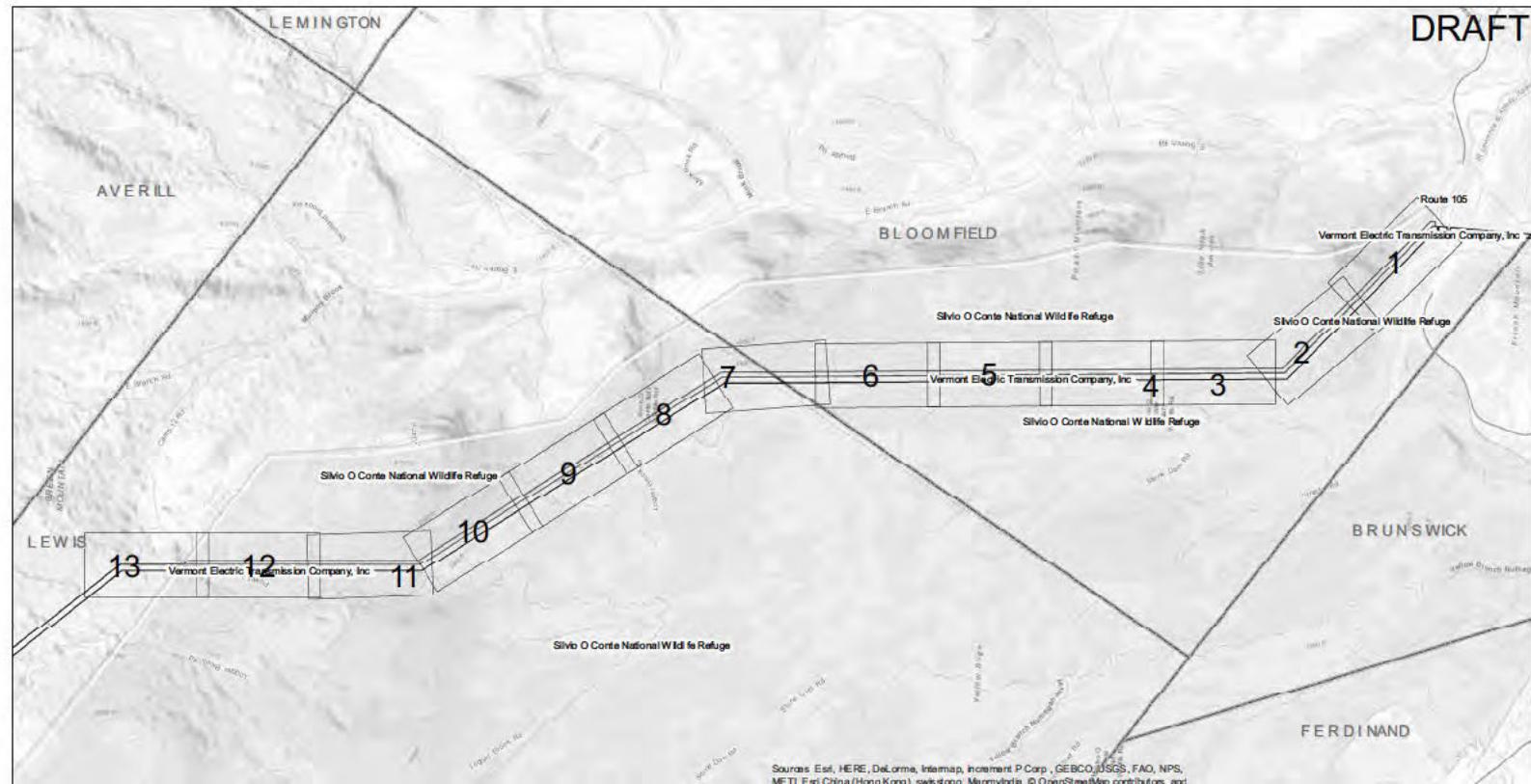
Subscribed to and sworn before me, a notary public, this 20 day of December, 2017.



Notary Public

My Commission expires: _____

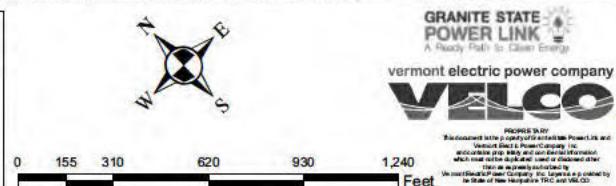
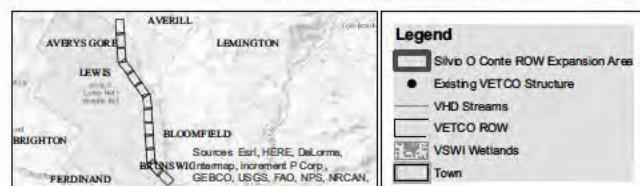
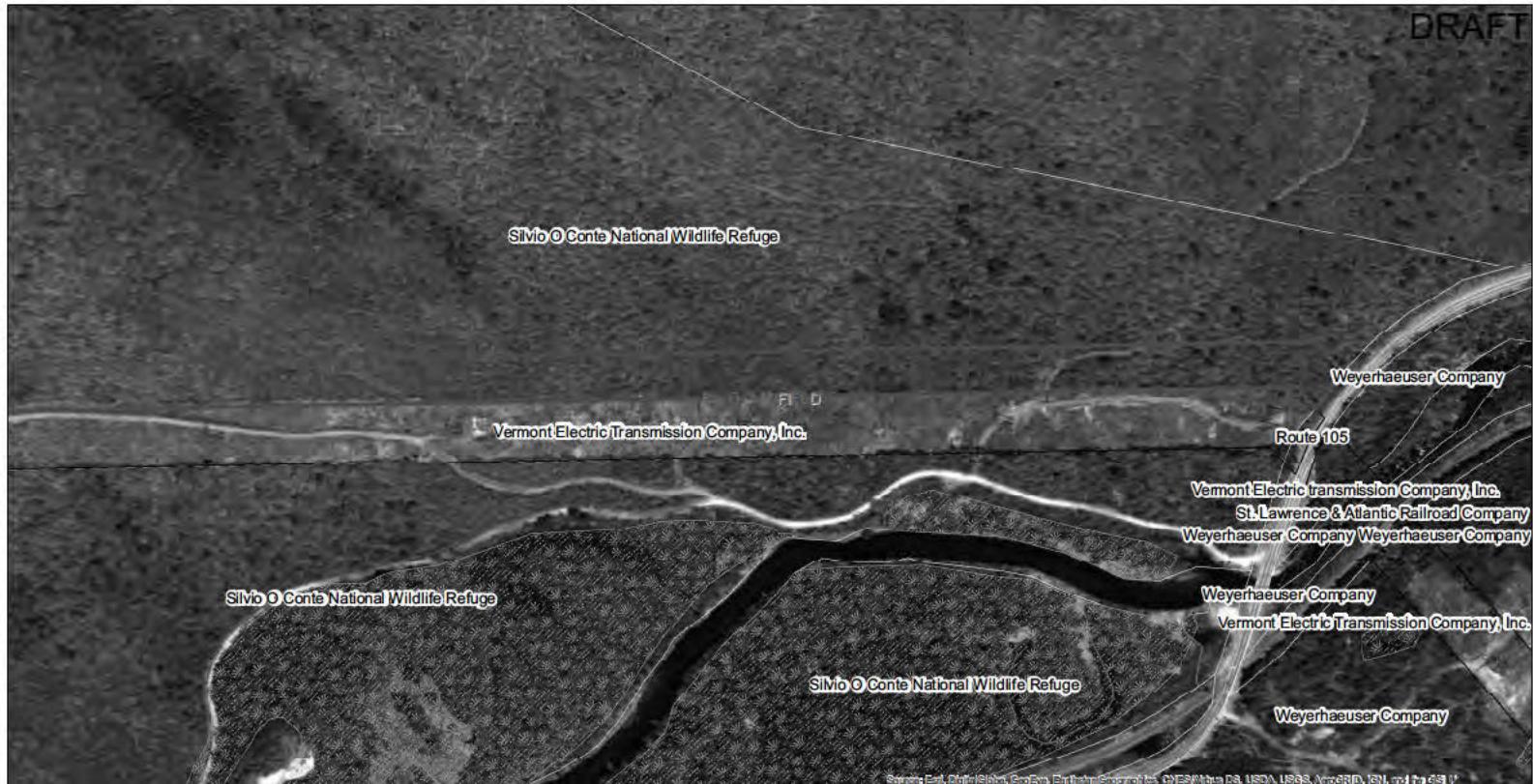
AILSA D. MCMENEY
Notary Public
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
My Commission Expires
February 5, 2021



Fee Range	Frequency
0 - 1,500	1,500
1,500 - 3,000	3,000
3,000 - 6,000	6,000
6,000 - 9,000	9,000
9,000 - 12,000	1,500
12,000+	1,500

Silvio O Conte NWR
Nulhegan Basin
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ROW Expansion Location Map
Granite State Power Link
Date: 3/14/2018

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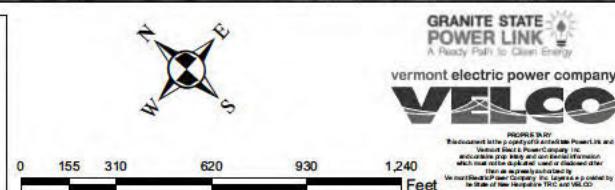
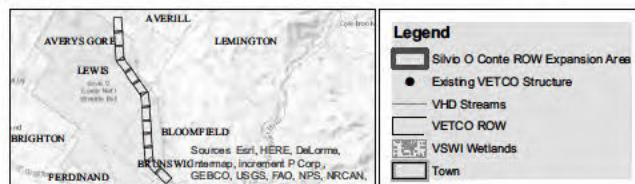


Silvio O Conte NWR
Nulhegan Basin
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ROW Expansion Location Map
Granite State Power Link

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Source: Erd, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, British Geographical, CNES/Mitchell DB, USDA, USGS, GeoGRID, IGN, and USGS DEMs.



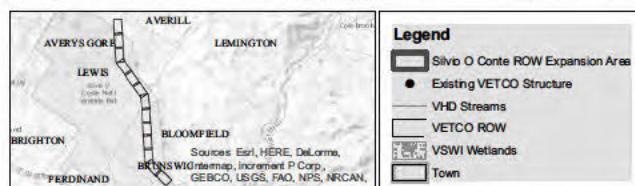
Silvio O Conte NWR
Nulhegan Basin
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ROW Expansion Location Map
Granite State Power Link
Date: 3/14/2018 Page 2 of 13

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Silvio O Conte National Wildlife Refuge

Vermont Electric Transmission Company, Inc.

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES



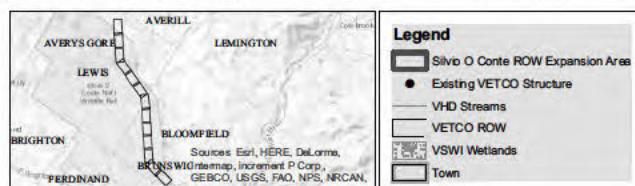
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Silvio O Conte National Wildlife Refuge

Vermont Electric Transmission Company, Inc.

Silvio O Conte National Wildlife Refuge

Sources: Est. Digital Sales, San Eva, Butcher Companies, CNE



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Vermont REED & Power Company Inc.
subsidiaries and their locations and telephone numbers.
which may not be the complete and/or disclosed after
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Silvio O Conte NWR
Nulhegan Basin
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ROW Expansion Location Map
Granite State Power Link
Date: 3/14/2018 Page 4 of 13

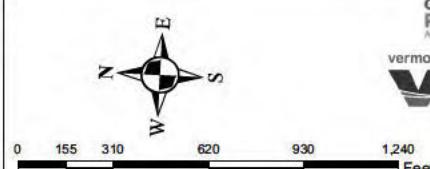
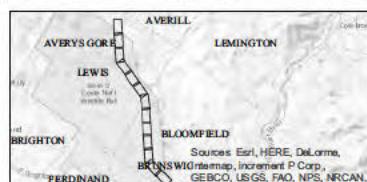
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Silvio O Conte National Wildlife Refuge

Vermont Electric Transmission Company, Inc.

Silvio O Conte National Wildlife Refuge

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEyn, Earthstar Geographics, CNES



vermont electric power company

Verco

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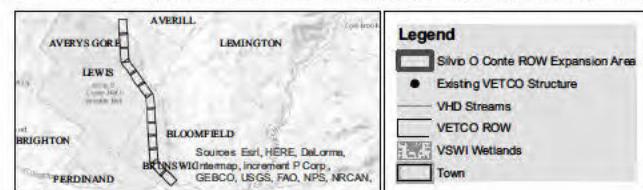
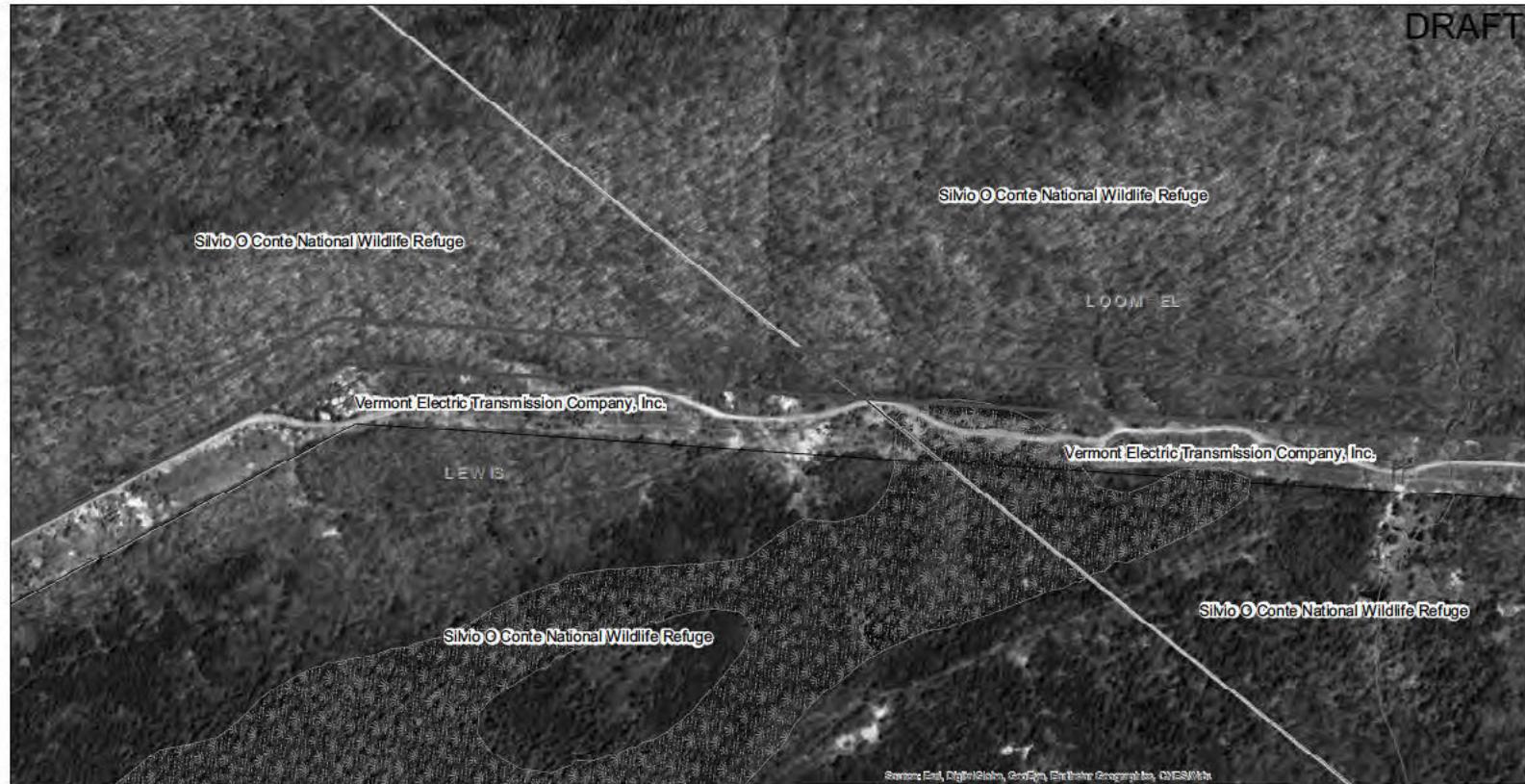
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the State of New Hampshire TRC and VRLCD

Silvio O Conte NWR
Nulhegan Basin
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ROW Expansion Location Map
Granite State Power Link
Date: 3/14/2018 Page 5 of 13

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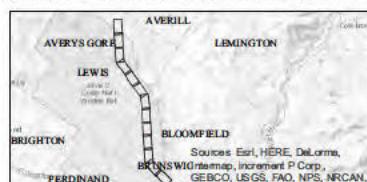
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Silvio O Conte National Wildlife Refuge

LEMINGTON
Vermont Electric Transmission Company, Inc.

Silvio O Conte National Wildlife Refuge

Sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AerialGrid, IGN, and the GS User Community.



Legend

- Silvio O Conte ROW Expansion Area
- Existing VETCO Structure
- VHD Streams
- VETCO ROW
- VSWI Wetlands
- Town

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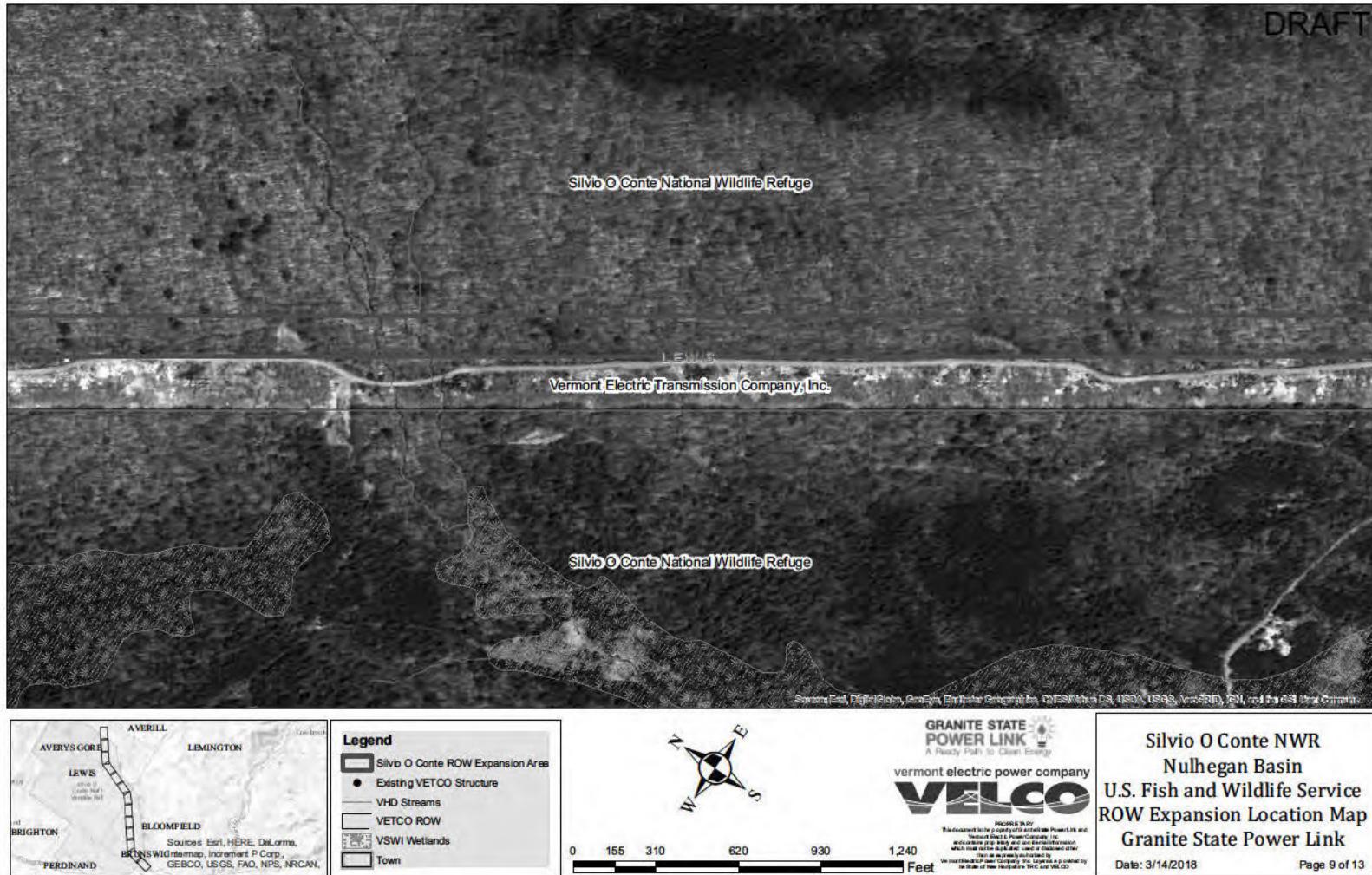
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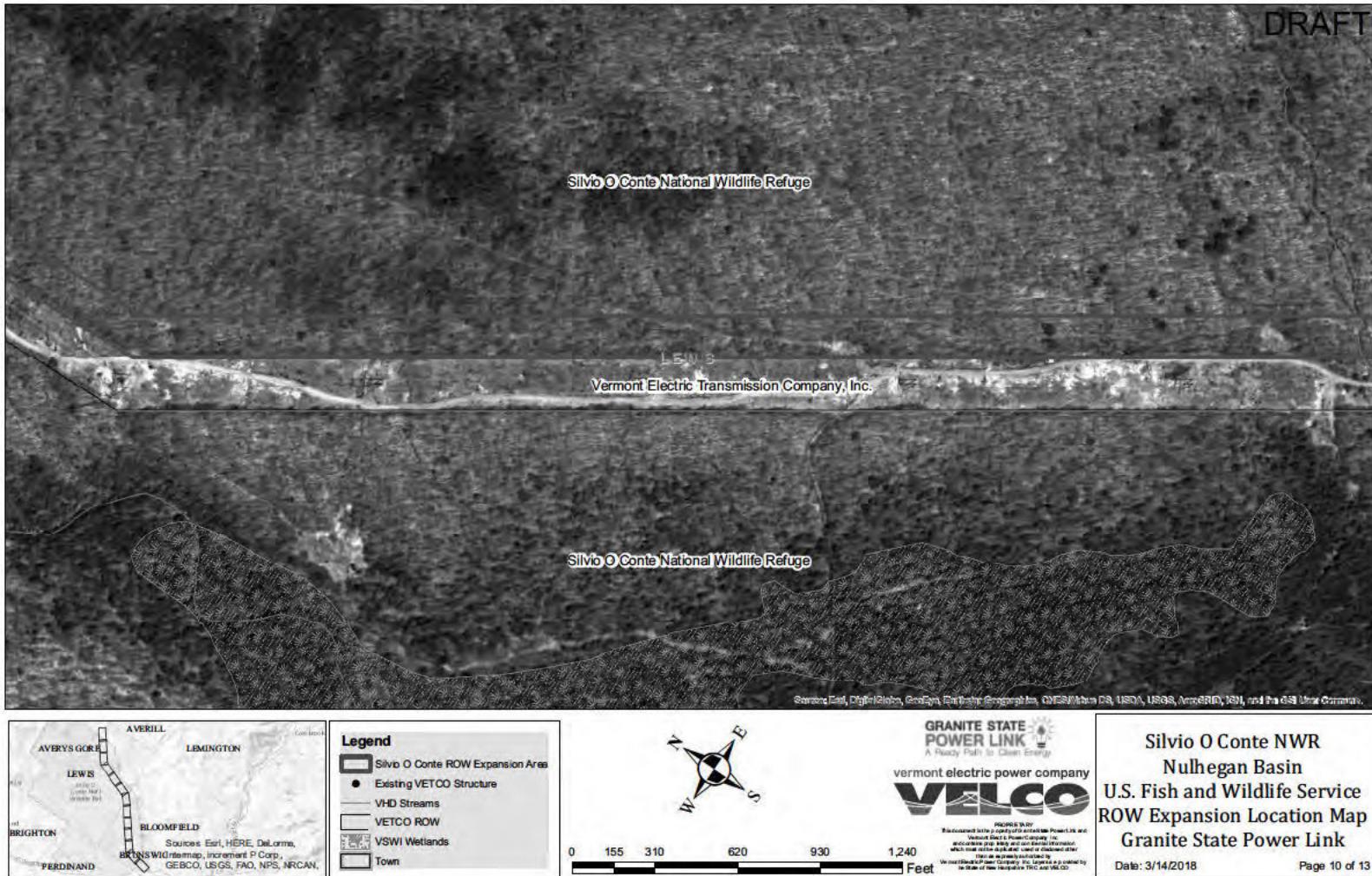
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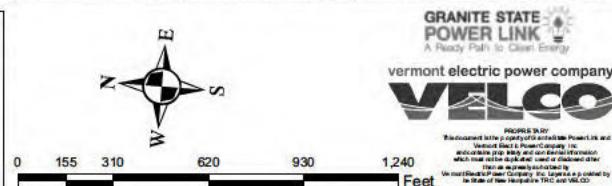
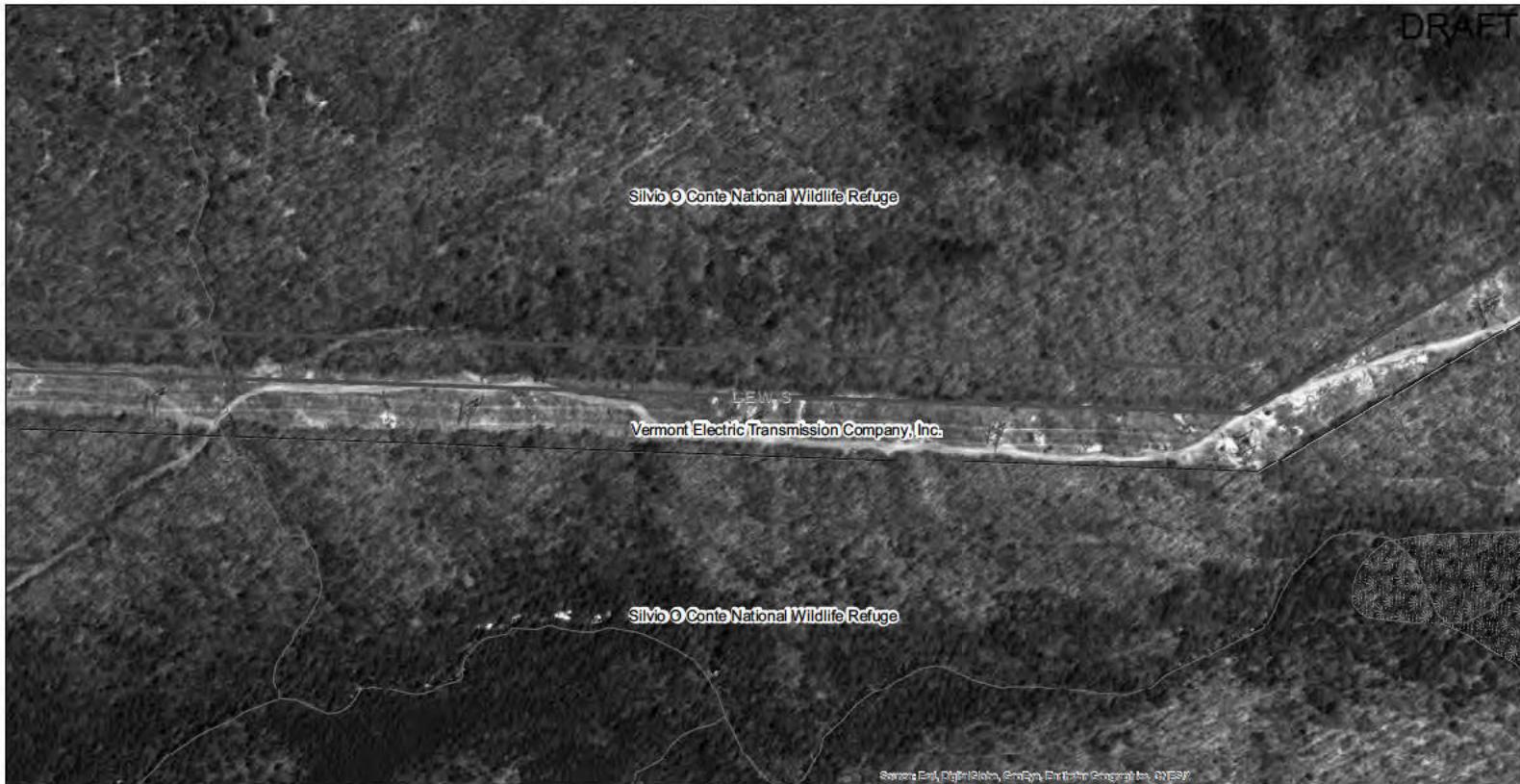
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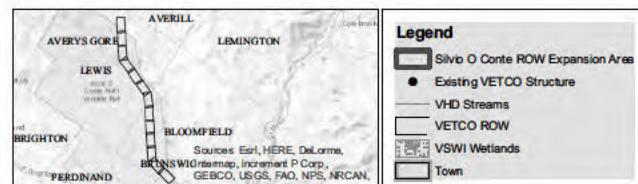


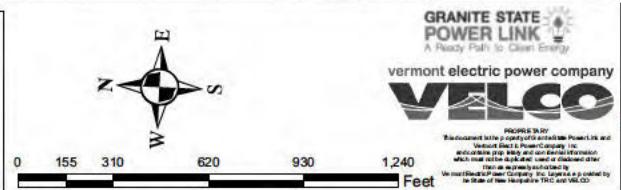
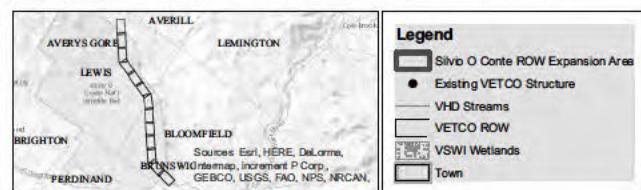
**Silvio O Conte NWR
Nulhegan Basin
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ROW Expansion Location Map
Granite State Power Link**

Date: 3/14/2018

Page 11 of 13

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Silvio O Conte NWR
Nulhegan Basin
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
ROW Expansion Location Map
Granite State Power Link
Date: 3/14/2018 Page 13 of 13

To: 'Joshua Campbell'[joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov]
Cc: Skipwith, Aurelia (aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov)
(aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov)[aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov]; Rossignoli, Joseph[Joseph.Rossignoli@nationalgrid.com]; Levine, Wendy B. (Wendy.Levine@nationalgrid.com)[Wendy.Levine@nationalgrid.com]
From: TJ Roskelley
Sent: 2018-03-14T21:13:11-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: RE: Granite State Power Link Project - Additional Information
Received: 2018-03-14T21:13:22-04:00
[2018.03.14 GSPL Overall Project Schedule Rollup.pdf](#)

Josh and Aurelia,

Attached is the current project schedule. As Joe explained when he met with Josh in DC, it is ultimately dependent on GSPL identifying a commercial opportunity, but there are several promising prospects that GSPL is evaluating. However, one lesson that we have learned from the recent Massachusetts RFP is that, to be competitive, it is important to have the federal permitting process, especially NEPA, well under way and with a clear path for completion, which is why we prioritizing federal permitting.

All the best,

TJ

**ANDERSON
KREIGER**

Timothy J. (TJ) Roskelley
T. 617.621.6539 | F. 617.621.6639
Anderson & Kreiger LLP | 50 Milk Street, 21st Floor,
Boston, MA 02109



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From: Joshua Campbell [mailto:joshua.campbell@sol.doi.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 4:46 PM
To: TJ Roskelley
Cc: Skipwith, Aurelia (aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov) (aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov); Rossignoli, Joseph; Levine, Wendy B. (Wendy.Levine@nationalgrid.com)
Subject: Re: Granite State Power Link Project - Additional Information

Great, thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 14, 2018, at 4:36 PM, TJ Roskelley <roskelley@andersonkreiger.com> wrote:

Josh and Aurelia,

Thank you for your time last Friday. Here is the additional information that you requested:

An outline of the timeline for completing the project. Much of the Grid America team has been on storm duty the last 48 hours (we were hit by another blizzard yesterday). We should be able to get you the current schedule by tomorrow morning, before you meet.

A map showing the full transmission line. A map showing the route of the exiting transmission line corridor owned by VELCO is attached ("GSPL Route Map"). The new GSPL transmission line would be built immediately adjacent the existing line, requiring an expansion of the existing right-of-way by approximately 150 feet. Locating the line adjacent to an existing corridor will substantially reduce the environmental impacts associated with creating an entirely new corridor. I've also attached a full copy of the Presidential Permit filed with DOE last December. It contains detailed project information, including anticipated environmental impacts.0

A map showing the areas/parcels within the Conte Wildlife Refuge that GA will be seeking to purchase from FWS. A map of the line going through the Silvio O Conte National Wildlife Refuge is also attached ("Silvio Mapbook"). The cover sheet shows the entire portion of the Refuge crossed by the existing transmission line and the detailed maps show where the transmission corridor would be expanded to accommodate the new GSPL project. Our understanding of the process for the land exchange with FWS is:

- Identify the land within the Refuge that GSPL would seek to acquire from FWS (that land is shown in the attached Silvio Mapbook);
- Identify potential parcels to be given in exchange to FWS and meet with FWS to narrow down the parcels to those that are generally acceptable to FWS (this is in process – we expect to meet with FWS staff to discuss options as early as April 1, 2018);
- Appraise all the parcels involved in the proposed exchange to determine fair market value (the market value of the land received by FWS in exchange for the existing Refuge lands must be equal to or greater than the market value of the Refuge lands that are given up); GSPL can spearhead this by selecting from a pre-approved list of appraisers and pay for the appraisals directly;
- Analyze all the parcels involved in the proposed exchange to determine their environmental functions and values (the environmental value of the land received by FWS in exchange for the Refuge lands must be equal to or greater than the environmental value of the existing Refuge lands that are given up) it is our understanding the GSPL's consultants can also undertake these evaluations, subject to the independent review and approval of FWS;
- Complete NEPA (an EA has been assumed by the local FWS team); and
- Complete the actual transaction – GSPL can draft the real estate documents, but they would be reviewed and approved by FWS staff and attorneys.

A list of the federal agency representatives that we've been working with:

DOE – Presidential Permit: Chris Lawrence , Julie Smith and Brian Mills

Christopher A. Lawrence
Electricity Policy Analyst
Transmission Permitting and Technical Assistance Division
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

O-(202) 586-5260
F-(202) 586-8008
Christopher.Lawrence@hq.doe.gov

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Electricity Policy Analyst
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20590
Office: 202-586-7668
BB: 240-252-0332
JulieA.Smith@hq.doe.gov

Brian Mills
Senior Planning Advisor Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy
Reliability (OE-20)

U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20585
Phone: 202-586-8267
Fax: 202-586-8008

Brian.Mills@hq.doe.gov

**FWS – Land Exchange in Silvio Conte National Fish & Wildlife
Refuge and Section 7 Consultation:** Graham Taylor, Andrew French
and Steve Agius (Conte Refuge)/Tom Chapman (Section
7/ESA/Migratory Birds)

Graham W. Taylor
Refuge Supervisor - North Zone (ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, CT, NJ)
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Northeast Regional Office
300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589
413.253.8356
413.253.8468 (fax)
graham_taylor@fws.gov

Andrew C. French, Project Leader
Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
Stewart B. McKinney National Wildlife Refuge
John Hay National Wildlife Refuge
103 East Plumtree Road, Sunderland, MA 01375
Cell: (413) 313-8682 Office: (413) 548-8002 x8111 Fax: (413) 548-9725
andrew_french@fws.gov

Steve Agius
Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge
Nulhegan Basin Refuge Manager
steve_agius@fws.gov

Thomas R. Chapman, Supervisor
New England Field Office, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300, Concord, New Hampshire 03301,
telephone (603) 227-6410

Tom_Chapman@fws.gov

Army Corps of Engineers – Section 404/Section 10 Permit: Mike Adams

Michael S. Adams
Senior Project Manager
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New England District
11 Lincoln Street, Room 210
Essex Junction, Vermont 05452
(802) 872-2893 OR (978) 318-8860
Michael.S.Adams@usace.army.mil

Forest Service – Special Use Permit for crossing through Forest Service land: Christopher Mattrick

Christopher Mattrick
District Ranger
1007 Route 7 South
Middlebury, VT 05753
802-767-4261
cmattrick@fs.fed.us

Please let us know if there is any additional information that you need and thank you again for your time and attention to this project.

Best,

TJ Roskelley

<image001.png>

Timothy J. (TJ) Roskelley
T. 617.621.6539 | F. 617.621.6639
Anderson & Kreiger LLP | 50 Milk Street, 21st Floor,
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<GSPL Route Map (A0485716xB0BA5).pdf>
<GSPL - Presidential Permit Application 12-22-2017_double-side
version_up....pdf>
<Silvio Mapbook 2018-03-14_redux.pdf>

GRANITE STATE POWER LINK OVERALL PROJECT SCHEDULE			GSPL BID TEAM ONLY																				Wed 3/14/18		
ID	Task Name	Start	Finish	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023															
				Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
1	Federal Permits and Consultations	Wed 11/1/17	Mon 7/1/19																						
2																									
3	New Hampshire Permit Process	Sat 9/1/18	Sun 9/1/19																						
4																									
5	Vermont Permit Process	Sat 9/1/18	Tue 12/31/19																						
6																									
7	Québec and Federal Canadian Permits	Mon 1/1/18	Tue 12/31/19																						
8																									
9	Land Acquisitions	Sat 4/1/17	Sat 11/30/19																						
10																									
11	Outreach & Stakeholders	Wed 3/1/17	Sat 12/31/22																						
12																									
13	Engineering/Design	Mon 10/2/17	Fri 9/24/21																						
14																									
15	T-Line Construction	Wed 1/1/20	Mon 12/12/22																						
16	Substation Construction	Wed 1/1/20	Fri 10/28/22																						

	Task		Inactive Task			Manual Summary Rollup		External Milestone	
	Split		Inactive Milestone			Manual Summary		Deadline	
	Milestone		Inactive Summary			Start only		Progress	
	Summary		Manual Task			Finish only		Manual Progress	
	Project Summary		Duration only			External Tasks			

To: aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov[aurelia_skipwith@ios.doi.gov]
From: Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Sent: 2018-03-15T16:32:25-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus Members Promote Recovering America's Wildlife Act
Received: 2018-03-15T16:33:06-04:00

Sportsmen's Conservation Groups Host Capitol Hill Breakfast Briefing

Trouble viewing this email? [Click here to view in browser](#)

To All Media
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:
Sara Leonard
sleonard@congressionalsportsmen.org
202-543-6850 x 11

Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus Members Promote Recovering America's Wildlife Act

Sportsmen's Conservation Groups Host Capitol Hill Breakfast Briefing

March 15, 2018 (Washington, DC) - Yesterday, Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC) Members Congressman Jeff Fortenberry (NE) and Congresswoman Debbie Dingell (MI) joined colleagues as well as representatives from the fish and wildlife conservation community including state fish and wildlife agency representatives, and oil and gas industries at a Capitol Hill Breakfast Briefing hosted by the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF) to discuss an important bill, Recovering America's Wildlife Act (H.R. 4647). The Briefing was sponsored by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (AFWA) and National Wildlife Federation (NWF).

Introduced on December 14, 2017, this bill aims to meet the increasing need for proactive wildlife conservation funding for the full array of our nation's fish and wildlife and the habitats they depend on. H.R. 4647 directs \$1.3 billion of existing revenue from royalties on onshore energy and mineral development on federal lands and waters to be used to provide funding for state-based wildlife conservation.

"America's hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and boaters have been the primary funders of state-based conservation efforts to this day. This legislation simply redirects funding for state-based conservation from other sectors that also use our natural resources," said **CSF President Jeff Crane**.

"In Michigan, enjoying the outdoors is not only a way of life, it is critical to supporting jobs and the outdoor recreation economy across the state," said Dingell. "At a time when one-third of all wildlife species are at risk of extinction, we all need to work together to proactively protect wildlife and habitat. The Recovering America's Wildlife Act provides states critically-needed resources to proactively conserve at-risk species before they land on the endangered species list, where recovery is ultimately more costly and restrictive. We are glad to have support from the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation and a broad coalition of organizations nationwide working

to pass this important bill and protect wildlife for future generations to enjoy," said **Rep. Dingell**.

In addition to the Breakfast Briefing this week, leaders from state fish and wildlife agencies, American Fisheries Society, Hess Corporation, National Audubon Society, National Wild Turkey Federation, National Wildlife Federation, National Shooting Sports Foundation, and Wildlife Habitat Council met with several Members of Congress to discuss the importance of H.R. 4647 to conservation efforts across the country.

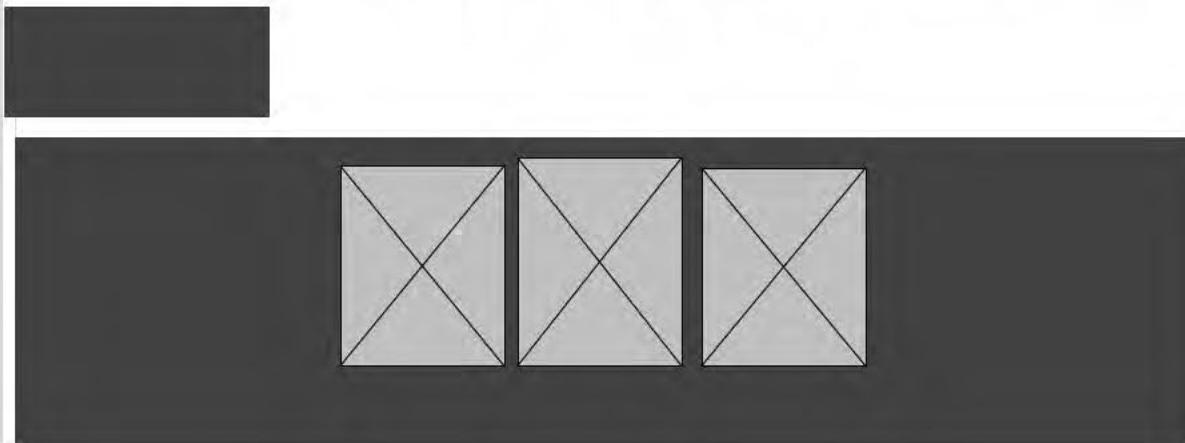
"Our nation's fish and wildlife are among its most valuable resources, along with clean air, water, healthy forests and agricultural lands that support all of us. The Recovering America's Wildlife Act would ensure all species - from the Atlantic sturgeon of North Carolina to the Wolverine of Idaho-continue to thrive," stated **Virgil Moore, President of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and Director of Idaho Fish and Game**. "We need to advance this important legislation to create a modern funding mechanism to conserve more than one-third of our nation's at-risk fish and wildlife in a manner that is economically viable to both taxpayers and the regulated business community."

"At a time when one-third of America's fish and wildlife species are at risk, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to save thousands of species and ensure that future generations inherit the full diversity of our nation's wildlife," said **Collin O'Mara, president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation**. "We thank Representatives Fortenberry and Dingell for introducing the historic Recovering America's Wildlife Act. This bill will help recover thousands of wildlife species through proactive, collaborative, on-the-ground efforts. The approach is unique because it calls for early action to save struggling wildlife, rather than waiting until species are on the brink of extinction. When this bill becomes law, we will increase wildlife populations, strengthen America's economy, and reduce the need for regulatory measures."

On February 15, the House Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to discuss H.R. 4647, which now awaits being scheduled for markup.

####

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Subject: Atlantic Coast Pipeline update
Received: 2018-03-16T11:38:08-04:00
[ACP Time of Year modification.pdf](#)

Today, ACP filed with FERC a request to modify the time-of-year period for migratory birds to allow for continued tree felling along the APC route until May 15, 2018. This request does not affect areas where Indiana bats are present or near Indiana and Northern Long-Eared bat hibernacula. If approved by FERC, this extension remains in compliance with the requirements of the Biological Opinion for ESA time of year limitations.

As tree felling continues, we will continue to closely coordinate with Paul Phifer in the Region office.

Thank you,

Ann

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March 15, 2018

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20426

**Re: Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC & Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc.
 Atlantic Coast Pipeline & Supply Header Projects
 Docket Nos. CP15-554-000, CP15-554-001, & CP15-555-000**

Dear Secretary Bose:

By Order dated October 13, 2017, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) authorized Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC (Atlantic) and Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc.¹ (DETI) to construct and operate certain facilities that comprise the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and Supply Header Projects (ACP and SHP; “Projects” collectively). *Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC & Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc.* 161 FERC ¶ 61,042 (the “Order”).

As required under Environmental Condition No. 1 of the Order, Atlantic and DETI hereby request a modification to the time-of-year restrictions for tree felling as detailed below. This is requested for all project activities for which a notice to proceed already has been granted by FERC. This is not requested for U.S. Forest Service lands at this time.

Background and Request

Atlantic and DETI adopted recommended time-of-year restrictions to protect both migratory birds and threatened and endangered species that are listed pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (“ESA”). Specifically, those ESA-related time-of-year restrictions are intended to avoid impacts to endangered Indiana bats and threatened Northern long-eared bats. The purpose and effect of those time-of-year restrictions are discussed in greater detail in Atlantic and DETI’s September 2017 *Migratory Bird Plan* and in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s (the “Service”) October 16, 2017 Biological Opinion (“BO”). Within the *Migratory Bird Plan*, Atlantic and DETI committed not to conduct tree felling during the period of April 1 – August 31 in West Virginia and North Carolina and March 15 – August 31 in Virginia. Further, Atlantic and DETI committed not to conduct tree felling during the following periods, as provided in their *Timber Removal Plan*:

¹ On May 12, 2017, Dominion Transmission, Inc. changed its name to Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc.

- West Virginia:
 - Migratory Birds: April 1 – August 31
 - Indiana Bats: April 1 to November 15
 - Northern Long Eared Bats: June 1 – July 31 within 150 feet of occupied maternity roost trees
- Virginia:
 - Migratory Birds: March 15 – August 31
 - Indiana Bats: April 1 – November 15 if the site is within 5 miles of known hibernacula; April 15 – September 15 if the site is not within 5 miles of known hibernacula
 - Northern Long Eared Bats: June 1 – July 31 within 150 feet of occupied maternity roost trees
- North Carolina:
 - Migratory Birds: April 1 – August 31
 - Indiana Bats: April 1 – November 15
 - Northern Long Eared Bats: June 1 – July 31 within 150 feet of occupied maternity roost trees²

In all states, at all times, Atlantic and DETI have committed not to fell trees within a quarter mile of known Northern long-eared bat hibernacula, except with explicit authorization of the Service.³

The time-of-year restrictions for different species overlap in places, but in effect, within the *Timber Removal Plan* Atlantic and DETI previously committed not to conduct tree felling in West Virginia and North Carolina between April 1 and November 15. In Virginia, Atlantic and DETI committed within the *Timber Removal Plan* not to conduct tree felling between March 15 and September 15, with an additional prohibition on felling trees that are within five miles of known Indiana bat hibernacula through November 15. The time-of-year restrictions for the Indiana and Northern Long Eared Bats included within the *Timber Removal Plan* were more restrictive than the windows established within the BO, which were specifically applied to limited areas of the project determined to be critical habitat.

Despite their best efforts, it now appears that Atlantic and DETI will be unable to complete the scheduled tree felling in each of those states before the existing time-of-year restrictions go into effect. **Therefore, Atlantic and DETI seek approval to continue tree felling until May 15, 2018, except in U.S. Forest Service lands and in areas where Indiana bats are present or where tree felling would be within five miles of known Indiana bat hibernacula, within a quarter mile of known Northern long-eared bat hibernacula, or within 150 feet of occupied Northern long-eared bat maternity roosts.** The approval sought adheres to the requirements and limitations detailed within the BO for ESA related time of year restrictions, and as such, Atlantic and DETI are not requesting consultation with the Service.

² See Atlantic Coast Pipeline, LLC, Atlantic Coast Pipeline & Dominion Energy Transmission, Inc., Supply Header Project, *Timber Removal Plan*, at 6 (rev. 2 Sept. 2017). DETI made similar commitments to abide by certain time-of-year restrictions on tree felling in Pennsylvania as well. DETI is not seeking to modify those commitments in Pennsylvania.

³ *Id.*

Justification

This modification to the time-of-year restrictions for tree felling is requested as tree felling for the 2018 construction season has begun but is not yet completed. Tree felling crews are mobilized and landowners of properties for which Atlantic and DETI have obtained access have been notified of impending tree felling on their properties. Completing the tree felling within one season also limits the amount and frequency of disturbance in the general area, benefiting landowners. Finally, failure to complete the tree felling will affect the 2018 construction season.⁴

Equal or greater level of environmental protection

The modification provides an equal or greater level of environmental protection than the original measure due to increased site-specific surveillance.

Specifically, Atlantic would have a qualified biological monitor survey the construction workspace ahead of tree felling to determine if migratory bird nests are present. The survey area would include the construction right-of-way and the FERC approved construction workspaces. Surveys would be conducted a maximum of two weeks prior to felling. If inhabited nests are located, a protective buffer would be delineated. The buffer area would be avoided to prevent destruction or disturbance until the nest is no longer active. A proposed updated *Timber Removal Plan* and *Migratory Bird Plan* reflecting the changes discussed herein and other technical corrections are attached as Attachments A and B, respectively.

The requested changes to the time-of-year restrictions can be made without reinitiating formal consultation under the ESA because they do not change the time-of-year restrictions considered in the BO. The Service concluded in that BO that the ACP and SHP were “not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of” any of the listed species considered therein, including the Indiana and Northern long-eared bat.⁵ The Service based its conclusion in part on Atlantic and DETI’s commitment to tree-felling time-of-year restrictions for Indiana bats which are narrower than those ultimately adopted in the *Timber Removal Plan*, and which Atlantic and DETI do not propose to alter.⁶ Because Atlantic and DETI are not requesting any change to the Indiana bat time-of-year restrictions that were considered in completing the BO and are not requesting any change to the Northern long-eared bat restrictions at all, the proposed

⁴ Approval of this request is consistent with previous FERC actions. *See e.g.*: Pauite 2018 Expansion Project Environmental Assessment (CP17-471) (approved construction during the avian breeding season, pending implementation of additional protective measures (e.g., nest surveys, buffers, and avoidance)); Blue Mountain Delivery Line Environmental Assessment (CP18-14) (approved construction during the nesting season, pending implementation of additional protective measures (e.g., nest surveys and avoidance)); Columbia Gas Transmission WB Xpress Project Environmental Assessment (CP16-38) (approved in-stream work during the restricted period if a site-specific waiver was obtained from the applicable state agency); and Dominion Transmission Inc., New Market Project Implementation Plan (CP14-497) (approved tree felling outside the tree felling season for the endangered northern long-eared bat).

⁵ Letter from Cindy Schulz, Field Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Virginia Field Office, to Kimberly Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, “Biological Opinion,” at 48-50 (Oct. 16, 2017).

⁶ *See id.* at 33-36.

modification of the broader restrictions contained in the *Timber Removal Plan* is “not likely to adversely affect” those bat species, or their critical habitat.⁷ As a result, reinitiation of formal consultation between FERC and the Service pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA is not required to approve the requested modifications.

The requested changes to the time-of-year restrictions are also consistent with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (“MBTA”). Atlantic and DETI have committed to implement significant mitigation measures that will minimize impacts to migratory birds and migratory bird nesting habitat. Additionally, Solicitor’s Opinion M-37050, issued by the Principal Deputy Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, establishes that the MBTA does not prohibit the incidental take of migratory birds.⁸ Finally, Atlantic and DETI’s tree felling activities, during the requested extension into the migratory bird nesting season, will minimize impact to migratory birds by implementing the increased site-specific surveillance proposed by DETI and Atlantic, along with the existing FERC-approved plans and procedures.

For the reasons discussed above, we request that FERC approve Atlantic and DETI’s request to continue tree felling until May 15, 2018 as identified in the *Timber Removal Plan and the Migratory Bird Plan*, except in U.S. Forest Service lands and in areas where Indiana bats are present or where tree felling would be within five miles of known Indiana bat hibernacula, within a quarter mile of known Northern long-eared bat hibernacula, or within 150 feet of occupied Northern long-eared bat maternity roosts.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 866-319-3382.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Matthew R. Bley

Matthew R. Bley
Director Gas Transmission Certificates

cc: Kevin Bowman, FERC
Aurelia Skipwith, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, U.S.
Department of the Interior
Paul Phifer, Assistant Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

encl(s)/

⁷ 50 C.F.R. § 402.13. The ACP and SHP do not cross any designated Indiana bat critical habitat. “Biological Opinion,” at 13. No critical habitat has been designated for the Northern long-eared bat. *Id.*

⁸ Memorandum M-37050 from the Principal Deputy Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, to the Secretary of the Interior et al., “The Migratory Bird Treaty Act Does Not Prohibit Incidental Take,” at 2 (Dec. 22, 2017).